

# THE ARIZONIAN.

TUBAC, THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1889.

**TO ADVERTISERS.**—Persons desiring to advertise in this paper, are requested to send in their favors without delay, addressed to THE ARIZONIAN, Tubac, Arizona.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** must in all cases be accompanied with the cash. No subscriber's name will be entered upon our books until advance payment has been made.

The lengthy communication which we publish this week in reference to the Gila Expedition, compels us to omit sundry articles designed for this page of the Arizonian.

## Death of an old Citizen.

Col. JAMES W. DOUGLASS died at his residence, Sopori rancho, on Tuesday, the 7th inst., aged about sixty years.

The deceased was born on the Atlantic ocean, while his parents were emigrating from Scotland to the U. States, and his youth was passed at Wheeling, Virginia. About thirty-three years ago he came to Santa Fe, and ever since has lived in Old and New Mexico, having spent several years in the former country, and in the revolution of 1836 held the rank of Colonel in the Mexican army. He was one of the oldest settlers of this region, known and respected by all for his intelligence, his high sense of honor, and his unbounded hospitality. He was one of those few men against whom there was never spoken a word of slander; and it is worthy of special mention that those who know him longest were his warmest friends.

Col. Douglass has done much towards developing the mineral resources of this country, and in every matter of business, possessed to an unusual degree the confidence of his fellow-men. He was buried at Tubac, the funeral ceremony being performed by the Rev. Mr. Tutill. Among the Americans present were several members of the Masonic Order, who performed appropriate ceremonies over the grave of their deceased brother.

California papers will please copy.

## News from the States.

A letter from Fort Kearny dated May 8th, states that the disappointed emigrants to Pike's Peak are returning home in droves. Nine hundred wagons passed the fort, the week previous to that in which the letter was written. The returning emigrants are in extreme destitute condition, and are selling their wagons, horses and outfits for almost nothing.

Hon. A. B. Greenwood, of Arkansas, has been appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs; Hon. W. D. Bishop, of Connecticut, Commissioner of Patents; and John Hart, Esq., of South Carolina, Superintendent of Public Printing.

The American Minister at Chili has been instructed to demand prompt reparation for the insult offered to our Consul at Valparaiso, Mr. Trevitt.

All the new naval steamers will be placed in commission as soon as they shall be successively finished, and before the close of this year every available vessel will probably be in active service. This design is not, however, with reference to the European war, as no damage to our commerce is apprehended from that cause. Vera Cruz is considered in official quarters to be one of the most important points where a large fleet is required, and hence additional vessels will be dispatched to the Gulf of Mexico. The facilities afforded by our squadron, either for sea or land operations, are considered sufficient for all emergencies.

**A MAN BITTEN BY A BEAR.**—A few days ago two Mexicans, one on foot and the other mounted, went into the Santa Rita mountains, about six miles from Tubac, to hunt stray horses. On coming to a cañon, where there was water, they came suddenly upon a large cinnamon bear, who, not liking an intrusion upon his retreat, showed fight. He sprang upon the man who was on foot, crushed him down, and bit his thighs and one arm in a very severe manner. The poor fellow had a knife, but did not succeed in injuring the animal. The man on horseback having no arms, lassoed the bear, who, alarmed by such an unusual method of assault, dropped the man he was lacerating, and made off, breaking the lasso, and nearly tumbling over the horse. The wounded man was brought to Tubac, where he is being attended to by Dr. Hughes.

## The Gila Expedition.

We have been kindly furnished by Mr. J. H. Wells, one of the Gila river explorers, with the following interesting narrative of the trip up to the time he left. On arriving at the mouth of the San Pedro, a meeting was held—G. H. Oury was elected captain; a consulting committee of three appointed, and upon being ready to start, the following persons were found on hand:

G. H. Oury, Wm. H. Thatcher, J. Veramenden, Samuel Hughes, J. G. Capron, J. Snively, M. Warner, H. W. Burroughs, Frank Easton, J. W. Roberts, R. Draper, A. Lyon, J. Smith, Jas. A. Hastings, E. C. Barker, W. Nichols, Fred'k Martin, James A. Martin, Fred'k Summit, John Drobbit, J. H. Wells, Charles S. Hopkins, Calvin Tush, Jos. Fry, Charles Coon, R. Kemp, A. C. Clark, N. B. Eldred, A. P. Bake, D. H. Stickney.

After stating that while on the San Pedro he forwarded other proceedings of the meeting, and a list of the members of the expedition, (which never came to hand,) Mr. Wells says:

I joined the company, with five others, all of Tucson, and we left for the San Pedro on the 20th of last April, to join the advance party already formed, and camped on that river, waiting for all that might wish to join them, as their number was not supposed large enough for protection when in the home of the dreaded Apaches. We were accompanied by Mr. A. C. Clark and three others of the old party who had visited Tucson for the purpose of adding to their supplies, and they, by the information they imparted, created considerable excitement, and many, for this little place, determined to join and be of the party, and a day was set when they would all meet on the San Pedro, near the Gila river. They brought in some fine specimens of gold that they had found while prospecting on Mineral creek, a small stream that empties into the Gila, about 22 miles above the mouth of the San Pedro. We took with us from sixty to seventy days' provisions, which we supposed sufficient, knowing if we were successful and found any good prospects, the merchants of this place would soon hear of it, and supply us with all we would need. Our course from here was by the Canon del Oro, and from thence to Leach's Crossing, on the San Pedro. I am satisfied, and many of the party agreed with me, that the above named canon is rich with gold, and all that is needed is a full and thorough system of prospecting, and I hope yet some may deem it of sufficient importance to give it that attention it needs. It is so near Tucson that it can be easily and cheaply worked. Very few Indians now visit it. On going out none were there, and on my return I remained there one night alone, near the old upper Indian treaty ground, and none visited me while there. We all reached the camp of the first party on the San Pedro, some 12 miles from its mouth, May 3d, Thursday, well tired out. We all walked, as our animals were heavily packed on starting. The San Pedro valley, from Leach's crossing to the Gila, is a beautiful country; the soil a very rich, sandy loam, and on the banks of the river a great quantity of fine timber, an abundance of water in the river, fine fish, and plenty of game; it is undoubtedly one of the finest, if not the best, in the Purchase, and there is land enough to support a large population. If our government intend to give us another military post, or remove the one we now have, I doubt if a better location could be found. Many of the most important trails into the Apache country start from this valley, and in fact it is right in the centre of their farming country, and many of them are located on this river, on the Gila near the San Pedro, and the Arivypa; they would be glad to have a post near them. We were while in camp visited daily by large numbers of the Pinal tribe, men and women; many would come and remain all night; they were peaceable, and glad to see the white man, and hoped we would come and live among them; they had no objection to our going into their country, and seemed well aware we were looking for gold, although we did our best to keep that idea from their minds, informing them we were only desirous to see their country; they had now, since the treaty had been made, the liberty of visiting our country, any part of it, and whenever they pleased, and all we asked was the same privilege; and in addition to seeing it, we were desirous to trade with them, if they desired to. Some of the party have brought with them articles to trade with, and although here we did not succeed in making any purchases, as they had but little stock, yet as we advanced into the mountains, those that had manta and beads succeeded better, and several good horses and mules were secured. Nothing of any importance occurred till the 8th, when we moved our camp some 3 1/2 miles nearer the Gila, and camped near the river, under the shade of some large and beautiful trees, plenty of grass, and our stock daily improving; many of the party to-day started out to kill deer, and succeeded, as two very fine ones were brought into camp. A large bear was seen, but did not succeed in securing him. The following day

we were joined by Mr. G. H. Oury and his party of five men, all well provisioned and mounted, and are now expecting Mr. Kemp and four others from the Colorado river; they are on the San Pedro, at the crossing, and have mining tools of all kinds, and supplies to last them at least four months. They are very much fatigued, and are obliged to travel very slowly. Mr. Oury learned in Tucson from an Apache that some 25 white men were on the Black river washing for gold, and if so, are supposed to be from the Gila diggings, near the Colorado, and have reached there ahead of us, by a more northern route. All are in hopes it is so, as it will add to our numbers when we reach them, and make us more secure.

May 10th, Mr. Kemp and his party arrived, and this morning we organized, and we remain until the 12th, to give a little rest to those that came in last. We were very much disappointed that Mr. Oury had not succeeded in securing a guide to go with us, as it is of great importance, as not one in the party knows the country; there are many trails, but it is impossible to tell where they lead to, and the different parts of the country we are anxious to reach; we are ignorant of the course to them, and that from the fact that Indians, Mexicans and Americans, that pretend to know, all place them differently. There are three Mexicans in the Purchase that probably know the entire country, as they have been captives among the Apaches. One of them living in Tucson, it was impossible to get—nothing could be held out to him, or any temptation—he was too much afraid, and money was of no use in his case. The second could not be found; the third one, the one we most wanted, as the most capable, as he had passed many years among the Apache Indians, acting as their chief for a long space of time, and possessed of more than usual good common sense, having lived in the country in which gold is found, and has often offered to go with any party and show them where it could be picked up, we could have secured, as he was anxious to go; but upon application being made to the commanding officer of the military post, notwithstanding the importance of opening a country belonging to this Union, and yet almost hidden to the eyes of the white man, he was refused permission, as he could not spare his private servant, although there were plenty of lazy Mexicans hanging about the post that might have filled his place. A communication was addressed to Capt. R. S. Ewell by Mr. G. H. Oury, asking for the services as guide of the Mexican named Marcial, if he was willing to go, stating the importance of having him; the letter was placed before the commanding officer, but declined letting him go. On the 12th we started, and rode only 8 miles, as some of the party were yet behind, and their animals needed care to keep up with the balance. On the following day we left camp, and crossed the Gila about 2 miles from the mouth of the San Pedro, water deep and crossing bad; continued on down the Gila, and made about 18 miles hard walking, and all well tired, as it was very warm and the trail very sandy.

May 14th, left the Gila, and as we supposed Mineral river course was from south-west to north-east, we took a trail that bore S.W. by S., and hoped we would strike the river about 10 miles from its mouth. Our course was up and down mountains, and after going about 18 miles we made a very beautiful little stream, supposed to be a tributary of Mineral river. We have passed through a country that appears to abound in minerals, many good evidences of fine silver leads, and have no doubt but that silver veins exist here equal to any that has yet been found in this country, and also found some mineral that has the appearance of cinnabar. We did not prospect for gold, for want of water in canons, that looked rich, but where we camped at night we prospected, but found nothing. Many of the party went out finding mescal, and brought in some fine heads, and made a large hole and fire to roast it, but did not succeed, as one night is not sufficient to cook it, and their labor was lost. The Indians require from four to five days to cook it sufficiently. They appear to live upon it almost entirely, and hardly a mountain exists that grows a head of mescal, but you find them gathering it, and fires are to be seen all over, where they are preparing it for eating. Early next morning left this small stream, and the trail carried us up a large canon, and then up and down mountains; at last we lost the trail, and the mountains appeared impassable; we were obliged to return again to get on the trail, when we were signaled by two Indians from the top of a mountain. Upon calling to them they came down, and for the balance of that day we followed them and ascended a mountain, one of a range of great height, and descended and found ourselves in one of the most beautiful valleys to be found anywhere. The soil was very rich, and plenty of water; we found many Indians living here, and at night were visited by many, anxious to trade. Many Tontos were here, besides the Pinals. They had horses, and they had one black mule belonging to the Sonora Exploring and Mining Company, with 50 braided on the side of the neck. The valley abounded in wild

cherry trees, and has been called Cherry Valley. On the 16th we left early in the morning, and was soon out of the valley, and our course, as usual, was over mountains; made a fine stream, which is a tributary of the Salinas; at night prospected, but found no color; all the canons have the appearance of being rich, but the want of water made it impossible to prospect as we go along. Our course the next day was along the banks of this stream, and have crossed it many times. In following this trail its size has increased, and is now about the size of the San Pedro. We here prospected, but have as yet found nothing, but are assured by the Indians we will find plenty on the Salinas river. Many Indians in camp, and we meet with them daily on our way; the mountains are full of them, and their signal fires are to be seen everywhere. They are very peaceable, but fearful. On the following day camped on same stream; the Pinal name for that river is "Sustong," and they call the Salinas "To-tod-gill." Our course thus far has been S.W. We left the Gila about 8 E. by E.

May 18th, after a long day's journey, over a more even trail, we have made the Salinas river, and are camped about half a mile from its banks. This is the main head-quarters of the Pinal and Tonto Apache Indians. They are here in great numbers; they have many Mexican captives and one Pimo Indian woman; many fine fields of corn and wheat are sowed. This is a fine country, and will produce good crops of all kinds. The Salinas is a large river, and much larger than the Gila; the current is very strong. One of the captains has promised to show us a canon where we will find gold in abundance, and many presents have been made him. On the 19th left camp under the lead of an Apache chief, and many Indians following us; crossed the river about 4 miles from camp, river very deep, and had considerable trouble in crossing. Camped; good grass. That the company might prospect, some nine of us visited the canon the Indian chief had named, some 8 miles distant, and prospected the canon and the river, but only succeeded in finding a few colors. Others took different directions, and returned with same result. The entire country looks exceedingly rich, but does not prospect well. The Tontos kept us on the look-out, as they tried their best to steal, and were even skulking about in the high grass. They stole many small articles, but did not succeed in getting anything of importance.

May 20th, our course has been almost due east to-day; made a fine tributary of the Salinas; water very good; continued on, and at night again camped on the Salinas. The water of the Salinas is very brackish, but all the small streams running into it that we have made thus far, we found the water very fresh and good. Some of the party have been trading their horses for others with the Indians; to-day many in camp.

This morning, May 21st, Mr. G. H. Oury, on account of ill health, concluded to go in with Mr. John Capron, who was obliged to go on account of business engagements, and were joined by Samuel Hughes. They left us early in the morning, and the balance of the party continued on, and at night made another tributary of the Salinas, and quite a long stream, and is undoubtedly one of its head tributaries, being almost as large as the main stream; water very cool and fresh. The company organized anew again, as Mr. Oury had left, and elected Mr. J. Snively as captain. Many prospected, but no success.

Sunday, May 22d, decided to return to Tucson, and in company with Mr. A. Lyon left camp about 8 o'clock. We returned part of the way on a new trail, and at the San Pedro at Leach's Crossing we separated, Mr. Lyon for Mr. Capron's station on the mail line near the Pimo villages, and I for this place, which I reached on Saturday, May 28th. The balance of the company are well supplied with provisions, and intend to keep on until they are consumed, having at least sixty days on hand when I left them. They intend to follow up the tributary we last struck if it bears east, if not they will follow it for one or two days prospecting, and then go east, hoping to cross the head waters of the Bonita and Black rivers, and return by the Gila river. They are in good spirits, and the opinion of all is that they will yet strike the gold deposits that have been so much talked of by all that have passed that country. It is truly astonishing to find the Indians among whom we have been so peaceable and kindly disposed towards all whites—they have treated us in all cases with great kindness, and it is now perfectly safe for any white man to pass through their country alone. Upon our return we fell in with some 250 Pinal Apaches, but they gave us no trouble, and we even felt so safe that at night we kept no watch, merely tying our horses near us. Seldom has a treaty been made which has already done so much good, and great credit is due Mr. John Walker, Indian agent for the Pimos and Maricopas, for the interest he has taken in it, and in the manner in which he brought it to a conclusion. The entire Apache tribes may almost be said to be at peace with